

The Sydney Morning Herald.

No. 10,161—VOL. XLII.

BIRTHS.

On November 27th, at Mortons, 63, Pitt-street, Captain, Mrs. JAMES IRVING, 35, of a son.

On the 1st instant, in her residence, Mortons, Hunter-street, Mrs. ELIZABETH HEDDON, 47, of a son, 18 months old, and her husband, Mr. HEDDON, 50, of a daughter, ANNE HEDDON, of a daughter.

On the 8th instant, at Rydal, the wife of G. STEVENSON, storekeeper, died.

On the 10th instant, at Castlecrag, the wife of WILLIAM GIFFEY, surgeon, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 21st November, by special license, at St. Mary's Cathedral, by Rev. Mr. H. H. HENRY, Mrs. MARY, eldest daughter of the Rev. Mr. H. H. HENRY, Nottingham, England, to MARGARET, youngest daughter of THOMAS ENGLISH, of Bunting-street, late of Lincoln.

On the 21st instant, at St. Barnabas' Church, by the Rev. Thomas Smith, Attorney, eldest son of S. M. MOORE, to Lucy, eldest daughter of John GARDNER.

DEATHS.

On the 3rd instant, at Swan Bay, 16, Pitt-street, Captain, Mr. JAMES IRVING, 35, of a son.

On the 1st instant, in his residence, Mortons, Hunter-street, Mr. HEDDON, 50, of a son, 18 months old, and his wife, Mrs. ELIZABETH HEDDON, 47, of a daughter, ANNE HEDDON, of a daughter.

On the 11th instant, at St. Barnabas' Church, by the Rev. Thomas Smith, Attorney, eldest son of S. M. MOORE, to Lucy, eldest daughter of John GARDNER.

SHIPPING.

SAN FRANCISCO AND OVERLAND TO ENGLAND.—The CALIFORNIA AND NEW ZEALAND, AND AUSTRALIAN MAIL LINE OF STEAM PACKETS, under Contract for a Monthly Mail Service.—The splendid steamship CITY OF MELBOURNE, 1250 tons, H. Granger, commander, will be dispatched on the 1st of November, and the CITY OF AUCKLAND, 1250 tons, H. Granger, commander, will be dispatched on the 1st of November, and the CITY OF HONOLULU, SANDWICH ISLANDS, carrying an experienced surgeon. Superior accommodation for Saloon, Cabin, and Intermediate passengers. A good table, with attendance, will be provided for all classes. Passengers will be provided with every requisite. Wine and spirits extra. Bedding is not provided for the second cabin or Intermediate. Passengers proceeding to the United States of America or Europe should avail themselves of this service. The ship will be well supplied with stores, and will be well provided for all others, having saloon, and avoiding the disagreeableness of a long sea voyage. The whole journey may be considered a pleasure trip, and cheaper and quicker than any other. Special arrangements will be made with families. 10 per cent will be allowed on return tickets. Immediate application for passage should be made to avoid disappointment, as only a limited number will be available.

For particulars apply to M. METCALFE and CO., No. 9, Bridge-street; or at the Head Office, Grafton Wharf.

H. H. HALL, U. S. Consul.

C. N. Z. AND A. MAIL LINE.—Pleasure Trip to San Francisco and back for £70; saloon ticket, to Honolulu and back, £50; privilege of stopping three months to visit America.

Apply to H. H. HALL, U. S. Consul.

THE AUSTRALASIAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S STEAMSHIPS TO MELBOURNE.—Alexandra, this afternoon, Wednesday at 4.30.

TO AUCKLAND.—James Paterson, Saturday afternoon, at 4.30.

TO HUNTER RIVER.—Collaroy, to-morrow morning, Thursday, at 7; and Coonabharra, Friday, at 11.

TO BRISBANE.—Lady Young, this afternoon, Wednesday at 4.30.

TO MARYBOROUGH.—Leichhardt, Tuesday, 20th instant, at 5 p.m.

TO ROKHAMPTON.—Egmont, this afternoon, Wednesday at 4.30.

TO BROAD SOUND and Pioneer River.—Egmont will take cargo, to be discharged at Rockhampton per chance.

TO LITTLE LAND BAY via Port Denison.—Boomerang, probably to Friday, 23rd instant, at 5 p.m.

FROM BRISBANE to Rockhampton, calling at Maryborough and Gladstone.—Steamer weekly.

Cargo is now being received for transmission to any of the above ports.

NO CARGO received for the steamers going to Melbourne or Queensland after 3 p.m. on their day of sailing.

H. F. TROUTON, Manager.

A. S. N. Co.'s Wharf, Sussex-street.

THE AUSTRALASIAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S STEAMSHIP JAMES PATERSON, will be dispatched for AUCKLAND, direct, on Saturday, 17th instant, at 4 p.m.

For particulars apply to the Traffic Manager, FREDERICK H. TROUTON, Manager.

A. S. N. Co.'s Wharf, Sussex-street.

H. F. TROUTON, Manager.

THE AUSTRALASIAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S STEAMSHIP JAMES PATERSON, will be dispatched for AUCKLAND, direct, on Saturday, 17th instant, at 4 p.m.

STEAM TO AUCKLAND.—The A. S. N. Co.'s steamship JAMES PATERSON, will be dispatched for AUCKLAND, direct, on Saturday, 17th instant, at 4 p.m.

STEAM TO NEW ZEALAND, calling at all ports.

The steamship GRAFTON, to the 17th instant, via Bluff.

The steamship GRAFTON to and from all New Zealand ports by the undersigned.

For rates of passage, freight, and any information, apply to JOSEPH WARD and CO., Agents, 3, Bridge-street.

STEAM TO MELBOURNE direct.

The steamship GRAFTON, 1000 tons, Captain ROUSE, will be dispatched from MELBOURNE, on the 17th instant, via Bluff.

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The steamship GRAFTON,

SOME COLONIAL EPISTLES.

One letter was not effectual, but the fair correspondent transmitted her papers, and made her "last appeal" in these touching words:—

"Honorable Sir,—I have in the enclosed document laid bare my true and sincere state of my affairs relative to my land. With full assurance in your honour that it is which I am, I can say that I have no other alternative in the cause of humanity and justice. And with this full assurance I make this final appeal to you.

"Your name is indelibly indented on all true and well-thinking women. And having once again the name of a woman in this discussion, I will now add that I declare your view to honour and glory, unashamed and unashamed."

After this who will deny that in reference to the art of letter writing, "with some heat less than 'equal husbandry' the woman may be 'equal to the man'."

THE REV. DR. LANG.

A PUBLIC meeting of the friends of the Rev. Dr. Lang was held last night in the Temperance Hall, Pitt-street, "to take into consideration the desirability of recognizing in a suitable manner his numerous services to my country." The meeting was opened by a short address, and it is rarely recalled except perhaps for the purpose of comparison with later times to show the progress of the colony, and to add new lustre to the reputation of competing Australian patriots. There are in our public office curious documents which are days to be held for "the historian" if his advent be not delayed until they are subjected to the flames and past into oblivion. There are copies of letters which illustrate the rigour of the official mind, the elegance of official calligraphy, and the respect for different ranks by width of margin and colour of tape. The delicate distinction between red tape and green is now no longer an obligation. Metallic paper fasteners have superseded the time-honoured ligature. It is not these official papers, however, that offer much encouragement to people fond of light reading. They are all constructed on the same model; and they all begin with the same frigidity, and end with the same stereotyped confession of obedience, and sometimes of humility. But the communications with the officers are unique and suggestive. Some of them are written in point of style, and some are orthographically correct. Some are of Artemus Ward, and some are after Mark Twain. In some there is a strange blending of the wisdom of the serpent and the simplicity of the dove. In others there is an admixture of the cunning of the fox and the blindness of the owl, set off with a sickening quantity of incense. The publication of choice specimens in the *Government Gazette* would be interesting. Good service might be rendered if a model were given of what an official epistle ought to be. Not many years ago, an official letter addressed to a late chief would open with a tender solicitude concerning the wife and children of the distinguished writer, and an assurance that, if ever he came near the commandant's dwelling, he would find an Arab's hospitality and that the lady of the house "would be a mother to him." The printing of the most affecting parts of such letters, with the replies thereto, under the head of "answers to correspondents," might perhaps check to a certain extent outbursts of personal regard. The vehemence of professed friendship may possibly be regulated in some degree by the magnitude of the requests urged by importunate correspondents.

The practice of teaching children the art of letter-writing is to be commended. As a rule, effective writing is very different from effective speaking.

The style of the colonial administration in the colony has less effect on the auditor.

Letters of business, of course, ought at all times to be terse and clear; but the generally accepted canons in regard to epistolary correspondence on other subjects is that it should be as free as an oral expression, and above all that it should be extrovert and not studied. Business letters are the product of the head alone. Amatory epistles—judging from specimens sometimes read in the Courts—are penned without reference to the brain. Those which come nearer to the generally accepted standard have a judicious mixture of human wisdom and human feeling. They are the productions of a lively fancy and a ready pen, and one of their chief merits is "even flow and address arrangement."

The balance between writing and speaking is set forth by James Howell, historian of the Second, who remarked: "It was a

curious difference the ancients did put betwixt a letter and an oration—that the one should be stiled like a woman and the other like a man.

The latter of the two is allowed large side-remarks, as long periods, parentheses, similes, examples, and the other parts of rhetorical flourish, but a letter, or epistle, should be short-coated and closely couched: a huggerin (a furred robe) becomes a letter more handsomely than a gown. Indeed, we should write as we speak, and that's a true familiar letter which expresseth its mind as if it were discoursing with the party to whom he writes, in succinct and short letters."

In a book recently written by Charles Knight, well known as editor of "Half-hours" with the best Authors' specimens are given of elegant epistles and familiar letters written by the historic writer who lay down the foregoing dictum, and certainly could not be classed among writers who, in lieu of letters, pen pamphlets and scribble sermons instead of epistles. He thus describes his visit to a newly-married couple:—

"I was according to your desire to visit the Rev. Dr. Lang's Testimonial Fund for £25, and believe me to be,

"Yours very truly (in haste),

"THOMAS HO.

Mr. THOMAS HO. MORT rose to move the first resolution, and after a short speech, said that he had no objection to the cloth of tissue.

He then moved that the motion be carried.

Mr. HOLT, who had been to a locksmith potticot lined with satin, I think Cloe had her fingers smutted in snuffing the candle, when she began to spin the thread of her life, and Lucifer frowned in twisting it up; but Agnia, with the rest of the Graces, was in good humour when they formed her inner parts. A blind man is fitter to hear her dance, if masked; and it would please you to discourse with her after dark, when she is best company if your imagination can forbear to run upon her face. When you marry I wish you such an inside of a wife, that such an outward physiognomy the Lord give you, your faithful friend to serve you.

The following well-seconded anecdote, which has survived and may be found among the correspondence of Howell:—The King of France being lately at England, sent his ambassador, Mons. Cadinat, expressly to visit our King. He had an audience two days, where he, with his train of ruffing long-haired monsieurs, carried himself in a light garb, that after the audience, the King asked my Lord Keeper Bacon what he thought of the French ambassador? He answered that he was a tall proper man. Ay, he majestically replied, but what think you of his head piece? Is he a proper man for the office of an ambassador? Sir said Bacon, tall men are like high houses of four or five stories, though commonly an uppermost room is worst furnished. Epistolary literature has always had great weight with the historian, estimating character, especially in times before reporting became an art. But even now, when men's opinions appear in print, as soon as they are enunciated, and their expressed thoughts immediately set others thinking, a private letter often contains more of real sentiment and opinion than speeches full of rounded sentences and plowing periods which are received with applause. It has been maintained that the best letter writers have been women. This is a graceful compliment to the sex which it would be ungracious to dispute. The following letters will afford an extraordinary specimen of Australian correspondence. They will also illustrate to some extent the working of the Land Act and the blandishments employed to influence the course of Ministers:—

"Honorable Sir,—Presuming to call your attention and mediation to the prevention of the alienation of my land, in consequence of my temporary visit to Kilmarnock, I express the desire of maternal and affectionate endeavours.

"The land is taken under conditional purchase on—when I return, for the reasons above assigned, and left my sister

and my wife to perform all works thereon till my return.

"My Honor will be pleased to conser-

ve and protect their interests.—I remain, your obedient servant,

"S. D. GORTON.

Mr. GORTON seconded the motion.

He thought it required him to say but little to recommend the name of Dr. Lang as sufficient to ensure its being carried out. He had the honour of having known Dr. Lang for upwards of forty years. From the day he arrived in the colony until the present time, he had been a constant and faithful friend to him, and had a great deal to do with his welfare.

He had the honour of being present at the

meeting at which Dr. Lang's

memorial was presented to the

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DRAPERY, HABERDASHERY, ETC.

NOVELTIES FOR CHRISTMAS, at DENISON HOUSE, GEORGE-STREET.

PRESENTATION SILKS.

RICH BLACK SILKS. 21 guineas to 81 guineas, permanent black and standard makes. Brilliant MOIRE ANTIQUES in all colours; also black and white. RIBBED SATIN DRESSES. Chemis, stripes, figures, &c. Plain coloured gowns. Real China gauze, manufactured from the Rhee fibre. PRESENTATION MANTLES AND JACKETS.

in RICH grosgrain, corded, and fayre silks, elegantly trimmed and dyed by the FINE ARTISTS in PARIS and LONDON, in loose and semi-tight shapes. A beautiful assortment of GRENADINE JACKETS with GUAYACA ditta BLACK LACE ditta

PRESENTATION SHAWLS, in BLACK LACES, of the following manufacturers—

Chantilly, point d'Alençon, pashier

Spanish and embossed silks

Black lace curtains and half-squares

White and coloured lace mantles and jackets &c., &c.

THOMPSON AND GILES, Denison House.

SMALL UMBRELLAS AND PARACHUTES. THOMPSON AND GILES have received a very COMPREHENSIVE ASSORTMENT of Ladies' Parachutes and Umbrellas, with IVORY and CARVED WOOD HANDLES.

CARRIAGE PARASOLS.

SPECIAL ATTENTION is invited to a case of PLAIN FANCY COLOURS, LINED and, UNLINED, at HALF their REAL VALUE.

FANCY DRESS DEPARTMENT. THOMPSON AND GILES are exhibiting an unusual variety of patterns and textures, suitable for the present season, and at very moderate prices. They consist chiefly of

Plain and striped silks, lustres, delaines

Fancy striped and figured moirés

Jacquard gowns

Silk and woolen gauze, in small patterns

Grenadine robes, richly embossed and figured

French silk and cotton textures, and an immense variety of used silks.

SUITABLE FOR PRESENTS. 6s 11d, 8s 11d, 9s 11d, 10s 9d, 12s 6d.

DENISON HOUSE.

HOSIERY DEPARTMENT. This department is now fully assured with the best makes of

LADIES' WHITE LITTLE THREAD, COTTON, and SILK HOSE,

in every superior finish.

Ladies' best BRAILBRIGGAN Hose, with silk clocks, from Smith and Co.

CHILDREN'S white cotton socks, in every size and

Coloured cotton socks

Fancy silk hose, for evening costumes.

CLOVE DEPARTMENT.

Ladies' first choice JOSEPHINE 1d gowns, in all sizes and every shade—also blue and white.

Children's kid gloves in all colours

Ladies' gauntlet kid, thread, silk, &c.

Ladies' and children's White and coloured festa silk

Silk and lace ditta, &c.

THOMPSON AND GILES, Denison House.

PRINTED MUSLINS

in every colour.

THE FULL DRESS,

A GREAT BARGAIN.

NEW GOODS, JUST OPENED, being a consignment of novelties, as under, sent expressly for the CHRISTMAS TRADE.

THOMPSON AND GILES have much pleasure in inviting the special attention of ladies to this SPECIAL SHIPMENT OF NOVELTIES.

Ladies' military and trimmed BONNETS

Ladies' untrimmed crinoline, straw, and chip bonnets

LADIES' CLOTHES, HATS, AND THE NEWEST SHAPES

French flowers, feathers, plumes

Crinoline and straw trimmings

CLOTHING DEPARTMENT.

Infants' hats, caps, &c.

Children's dresses and suits, in fancy silk and foulard

Summer pupils and alpacas

Muslin, &c.

Quilted brocade, &c.

Lace and muslin, &c.

